

Also, the nominee is a member of the firm of Hogan & Hartson, one of the leading firms in the Nation's capital. Fifty years ago, I was a member of that firm. And I just reminisced with the nominee. I was the thirty-fourth lawyer in that firm, which was one of the largest in the Nation's capital. Today, there are 1,000 members of that law firm, to show you the change in the practice of law in the half-century that I have been a witness to this.

Mr. Chairman, you covered in your opening remarks every single fact that I had hopefully desired to inform the committee. So, again, for that reason you have, most courteously, Mr. Chairman, stated all of the pertinent facts about this extraordinary man, having graduated from Harvard, summa cum laude, in 1976.¹ Three years later, he graduated from Harvard Law School, magna cum laude, where he served as managing editor of the Harvard Law Review. Those of us who have pursued the practice of law, know that few of us could have ever attained that status. Even if I went back and started all over again, I could not do it.

He served as law clerk to Judge Friendly on the usn Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and worked as a law clerk to the current Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge Rehnquist—Justice Rehnquist.

So I commend the President, I commend this nominee. I am hopeful that the Committee will judiciously and fairly consider this nomination and that the Senate will give its advice and consent for this distinguished American to serve as a part of our Judicial Branch.

I thank the chair and members of the committee.

[The prepared statement of Senator Warner appears as a submission for the record.]

Chairman HATCH. Thank you, Senator Warner. We appreciate it. Senator Hutchison?

PRESENTATION OF ROBERT JUNELL, NOMINEE TO BE DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS BY HON. KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS

Senator HUTCHISON. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I am very pleased to introduce my friend, Rob Junell, who has been nominated to serve as a district judge for the Western District in Midland, Texas. This court is identified as a judicial emergency by the Judicial Conference of the United States.

Rob has brought his wife Beverly with him today, and I know he will introduce her later, but I want to say that Rob and Beverly are real friends of mine. Sometimes we nominate people that are great on the merits, but we do not know them. Well, Rob is great on the merits, and I know him well.

He served seven terms in the Texas House of Representatives, retiring voluntarily last year. He was Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee and the House Budget Committee, and I worked with him when I was State treasurer. And just a little vignette about the kind of person he is, I was elected to a 4-year term as State treasurer and introduced a very complicated piece of legislation to limit our State debt to the legislature. I asked Representative Junell to carry that bill, since he was Chairman of the

Appropriations Committee, and I thought, since it was so complicated, that I would put it out there, talk about it, let the members have the chance to really look at it and study it, and then in my second year, second part of my term, after the fourth year, I thought we would try to pass it.

Well, Representative Junell did such a terrific job of carrying the bill that he passed it the first session that I had given it to him, and we do have a limit now on general obligation debt in Texas, which has served us very well throughout the ups and downs of the economy of our State.

Rob graduated from NMMI, then graduated from Texas Tech and Texas Tech Law School, with honors. He received a master's degree from the University of Arkansas. He is very active in his local community of San Angelo, including service on the boards of the United Way of the Concho Valley, the San Angelo AIDS Foundation, and Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas. He is a lifetime member of the NAACP.

He also has received numerous honors and awards recognizing his leadership in serving the people of Texas. He has earned the distinction as Legislator of the Year given by the Texas Public Employees Association, the Vietnam Veterans Association, and the Greater Dallas Crime Commission. The Dallas Morning News named him one of the best of the best in the Texas legislature in 1995.

In addition to Rob's legislative service, he has continued to maintain a law practice. In Texas, the legislature only meets 5 months every other year, a practice that I would recommend to the U.S. Congress. So these are people who have real jobs in the real world.

He has been a practicing lawyer, very well-respected in the San Angelo and West Texas communities and has a wide range of clients, including hospitals, small businesses, school districts and individuals. I recommend my friend Rob Junell highly to you and hope that we can have an expeditious confirmation of his nomination.

Chairman HATCH. Well, thank you, Senator Hutchison. We are sorry you have had to wait this long, but it is just the way it is on this committee, so we appreciate your patience.

Senator HUTCHISON. Thank you.

Senator LEAHY. I appreciate you being here, too. You have mentioned him before with the same kind of glowing—he should know that even when he is not in the room, you have always said such nice things about him. As I said, Congressman Stenholm called me, too, to say similar things, and I do appreciate it.

Senator HUTCHISON. Yes. Thank you very much.

Chairman HATCH. Thank you. We will turn to Senator Voinovich, first, and then we will wind up with Senator DeWine.